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*The History and Nature of International Relations.* Edmund A. Walsh, Editor. New York, MacMillan Co., 1922.

The genesis of this compact volume explains its purpose and its character. It is composed of selected lectures delivered to classes of students in the School of Foreign Service of Georgetown University, a department of study designed to aid young men in preparation for the diplomatic and consular services and to promote an intelligent comprehension of foreign affairs in general.

The value of the work is what might be expected of the standing and experience of the lecturers, all of whom have long dealt in a practical way with international questions either as publicists or as teachers of international law, history, and economics, and in some instances combining a profound knowledge of theory with long experience in public service.

The origin of the book would not give promise of a completely systematic treatment, to which it makes no pretense; and yet the lectures taken together present a somewhat organic treatment of the subject. "The Fundamentals in a Scientific Study of International Relations," by Dr. Stephen P. Duggan, serves as a general orientation, followed by Professor Rostovtseff's chapter on "International Relations in the Ancient World," in which the Roman and pre-Roman conceptions of international right and its organization in antiquity are somewhat learnedly set forth. Professor Carlton J. H. Hayes presents a good resumé of "Medieval Diplomacy," and the Honorable James Brown Scott treats of "The Development of Diplomacy in Modern Times," extending it over the Hague Conferences, with which he has special acquaintance. Taking the United States as an exemplification of "international organization," he regards the American federation as "a union of States, free, sovereign and independent," which may furnish an example for a wider organization, and especially for an international court. It is a doctrine which Dr. Scott has fully elaborated in a larger work.

"The Economic Factors in International Relations" is considered by Professor J. Lawrence Laughlin; and the Honorable John Bassett Moore offers a valuable discussion of "The Specific Agencies for the Proper Conduct of International Relations," such as negotiation, good offices, mediation and arbitration, under the head of Amicable Methods; and rupture of diplomatic relations, retorsion, reprisal, pacific blockade and war, under that of Non-Amicable Methods.

Other addresses, less connected with the main theme in their content, follow: "Latin America as a Factor in International Relations," by Dr. Rowe, Director of the Pan-American Union, and "The United States as a Factor in the Development of International Law," admirably discussed by Dr. Borchard.

A discourse on "The Evolution of Private International Law," by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, Senor Esteban Gil Borges, on receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws, is also included; his thesis being that "private international law tends to become a law of the state, just as in other times private law was the law of the race in the case of the barbarian peoples, and was the law of the city in the Greek and Latin forms of society, and the law of the land in the period of feudal social organization."

The volume forms a useful manual for the student and is worthy of the attention of all who wish to possess a concise general treatment of international relations.

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